



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring Term at NBH Nursery School.

This curriculum letter will provide information about what Reception will be learning over the course of the term ahead. There are many events planned that you can engage in over the coming weeks including FoNBH events, trips, themed weeks: Book Week and Science week.

Please be sure to check the app for the spring term calendar (see 'info' section and 'calendar' section) in addition to the *Week Ahead* which is sent out each week.

Each Thursday, class teachers will publish an update on class news via the app so please do take a moment to read these.

It is promising to be another action-packed term.

Headteacher
NBH Nursery and Pre-Prep

Overview of the Spring Term in Reception

This term your child will continue to develop their skills in the three prime areas:

- Communication and Language
- Physical development
- Personal social and emotional development



All of these areas will be developed through our new topics, which will be 'Transport' and 'Places'

This means that your child will be fully immersed in a subject for a half term, with the aim of promoting deeper learning. For example the mathematics will be linked in with the topic so the children will be learning about ordinal numbers when we do the topic Chinese New year discussing where the animals come in the race.

During this topic your child will use language and new vocabulary from books to talk about their experiences, and will organise and sequence their thoughts sticking to a main theme or intention. For example answering prediction and retrieval questions from stories read.

They will be encouraged to express themselves effectively, speak in a range of situations, and show an awareness of listeners needs adjusting the volume of their voice accordingly.

Your child will also continue to develop their gross and fine motor skills through P.E and a range of fine motor activities fort example cutting, threading, tracing, building using small Lego pieces, and creating patterns on peg boards. They will be encouraged to handle tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely with increasing control.

Children will be encouraged to manage their own personal hygiene such as wiping their noses and washing their hands and dress and undress independently.

They will also develop further knowledge in *these* specific areas:

- Mathematics
- Literacy
- Understanding the world
- Expressive Arts and Design



Phonics, Reading and Writing

Your child will have access to a wide range of mark making materials and will be encouraged to make marks, draw pictures and give meaning to the marks they draw and paint. They will also be drawing pictures from our topics and writing about the different things they learn from around the world.

They will continue to learn phonemes and the graphemes to match as well as identify initial sounds in spoken words. Children who are ready will also be moving onto the learn more tricky Diagraphs such as 'ou' and 'ee'. Your child will continue to learn the letter formation rhymes and will write using a pencil holding it correctly using a pincer grip. They will also continue to blend and segment words to read and write using the sounds they know and the new sounds they will be learning.

During reading your child will be encouraged to listen and join in with stories and poems in small groups and as a class. They will learn to describe main story settings, events and principal characters and will begin to join in with repeated refrains in familiar stories. They will explore story maps for their focus texts and begin to show an awareness of how stories are structured; innovating and creating their own.



Mathematics



Your child will be encouraged to use quantities and objects, to add/subtract two single-digit numbers, and count on or back to find the total.

For example when combining 4 objects with 3 they will count on from 4 rather than count the whole group together.

They will read and solve addition and subtraction number sentences using concrete objects, drawings and number lines.

They will also solve problems involving halving and sharing.

For example sharing groups of objects equally between 2, 4 and 6.

For shape, space and measures your child will recognise, create and describe patterns as well as investigate length, height, weight and capacity.

They will also be encouraged to use everyday language related to time for example sequencing of the day using morning, lunch afternoon and evening and begin to identify 'o'clock'.

How to help your child at home

Developing your child's language and extending their vocabulary is a very important skill for them to develop to progress in their education.

Giving your child a range of experiences and discussing how things work and why some things occur is a great way to develop their knowledge of the world and widen their understanding and vocabulary. You can do this by giving a commentary about the things you are doing and the reasons with explanations for new vocabulary that you may be introducing them to.

Reading with your child everyday will also help them to develop a love for reading and stories, as well as teach them new things and the meaning of new vocabulary.

You can also look for shapes and numbers in your everyday environments when you are out and about and in the supermarket for example looking at windows and saying if they are square or rectangle and discussing how many sides or corners they have and looking at packaging and saying if it is a cylinder or cuboid and talking about the shape of the faces.

Mystery Reader

Mystery reader is an opportunity for you as parents to come into school and read a story to the class.

This term we would really like parents to read traditional stories from around the world to link with our Book Week theme.

The children will not know you are coming until you arrive.

If you would like to come in to read a story, please contact your class teacher.

Reading at school and at home.



All children are assessed in reading regularly at school. This assessment comprises of a 1:1 session with a TA.

Your child will read unseen texts which they are then required to:

- 1) Retell in as much detail as possible, using specific vocabulary found in the text
- 2) Read with an appropriate level of fluency and expression
- 3) Answer comprehension questions (literal and inferential) based on the text they have read

This assessment then provides a 'Reading Age' and directly corresponds to a colour band in the Big Cat reading scheme.

All children will read regularly at school. Please ensure that you encourage your child to read **every day at home**.

Your child will receive up to 3 Big Cat reading books to use at home each week.

Guidance on reading at home:

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Child reads first book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the first book—	Child reads second book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the second book—	Child reads third book to a grown up at home (approx. 10 mins)	Child and grown up complete the activities at the back of the third book—	Child reads any text of their choosing. This could be a magazine or a book from the local library.
Child re-reads first book independently (approx. 10 mins) - To develop fluency skills	To develop essential comprehension skills	Child re-reads second book independently (approx. 10 mins) - To develop fluency skills	To develop essential comprehension skills	Child re-reads third book independently (approx. 10 mins) - To develop fluency skills	To develop essential comprehension skills	Oxford owl have lots of free e-books. Your child could complete a response to reading activity e.g. draw a front cover or draw and label a character.

Big Cat Reading Scheme

The school follows the The Big Cat reading scheme series (also in use at the Pre-Prep) which links directly to the reading assessments we conduct in school. As your child is assessed, we will match them with a colour band from the reading scheme. Your child will bring home books that provide the right level of challenge for them. The children will read regularly at school and we encourage you to support this with reading regularly at home. At the back of each book is some guidance for grown ups on how to develop essential reading comprehension skills. Please encourage your child to re-read these texts and also their favourites from your own collection / library as this will develop their level of fluency, as well as vocabulary and sense of story structure, all of which will be a positive influence on their writing.



Please take good care of these lovely books. Damaged or lost books will incur a charge of £5 per book for replacement.

Understanding the world



Your child will be learning about different places around the world. We will be exploring Cold lands such as the North Pole and South Pole, Europe, China and Africa. They will be encouraged to make comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live and other places around the world that they have visited or learnt about.



They will also discuss how environments vary from one another and begin to know and recognise similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.

The children will be completing a sponsored walk to raise money for a school in Uganda. They will also be writing to some of the children from this school and sending a box to them with donated items .

WOW Certificate

Each week a child from every class will receive a WOW Certificate for something amazing they have achieved.

This certificate is shared in the whole school assembly and is later sent home for parents to celebrate



Learning Leaves

Learning Leaves are given to parents at the start of each term. This is a way for you as parents to celebrate and share one or many of your child's achievements that take place away from school, with us at NBH Nursery.

If you have something you wish to celebrate, simply complete a learning leaf and send it in to school.

The leaves are read out and celebrated in assembly and added to our **Learning Tree** so that we can all celebrate and recognise individual achievements together!



Show and Tell

Children will have the opportunity to bring in something for show and tell on a weekly basis. Show and tell is really good for developing their communication skills as it provides children with a chance to explain as well as ask and answer questions. It is important however that the chosen item is something interesting and something linked to our topics. (No toys)

Please also avoid bringing expensive or special items in case of loss or damage.

Parent & Child Mornings

Parent and child mornings are an opportunity for you to come into your child's class to look at the work your child has completed so far this year.

These will take place at

8.30 – 9.00 on the following dates:

Monday 25th March to Friday 29th March at 8.30-9.00.



Trips

This half term the children will be visiting

The Transport Museum.

They will have the opportunity to look at and find out about older forms of transport.

The children will leave school at 9.30 and arrive back by 12.30

Trip Dates

13th of March -Koalas and Zebras

18th of March -Dolphins and Lions

20th of March- Penguins, Squirrels and Giraffes



Music

In music, Reception classes have been introduced to the Kodaly approach – the teaching, learning and understanding of music through singing and sing games, without the technicalities of using a musical instrument. This term, children will recap their understanding of pulse, rhythm and pitch through the revision of the circle-singing games and activities from the Autumn Term, and start to recognise and be able to represent sounds through simple notation. Reception classes will continue to practise songs related to class topics for assembly performances, as well as celebrating key festivals and events taking place during this term.



French

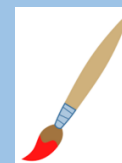
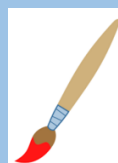


In French, the children will learn the names of body parts and enjoy singing the French song "Un petit pouce qui danse". I will also introduce them to two stories, "Va -t-en, grand monstre vert!" and "Toutes les couleurs" which are great for this topic. They will also be taught the names of the different rooms in the house and talk about their dream garden. Finally, we will keep practising our numbers to 100 and beyond. Most of the children are very enthusiastic about their numbers and I hope they will show you and their older siblings how amazing they are!

Art

Your child will be encouraged to use a variety of media and techniques to create, using their own ideas and those related to our topics.

For example they will be painting pictures of cold lands and completing African weaves and making African style Jewry.



Gym/ Games

In the summer term Reception students will be working on sequence work in Gymnastics and Games Skills in their PE lessons. Their gymnastics sequences will include travelling, jumping and landing, rocking and rolling and shapes. The students have learnt to move in a safe and controlled manner whilst travelling over, under, along and through a variety of pieces of equipment like the benches, mats, balance beam, ropes, ladder and the small and large apparatus. Games Skills lessons will include playground games and small and large ball manipulation skills like rolling, bouncing, throwing, kicking and aiming.

Celebrations and Festivals

This term the children will learn about **celebrations including Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Easter and Passover.**

We very much welcome parents in to school to talk about your faiths and cultures. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you would like to come in to school to lead a class session or an assembly.





Please be sure to have selected the appropriate channels and filters on the app to ensure that you receive the regular updates and alerts.

For example, Reception parents should check the following:

Settings / Channels / Urgent Messages for Parents of Nursery / Reception / Class name
Settings / Filters / Nursery

The General Info section contains useful information including term dates.

In conjunction with the app provider we are developing the registration and privacy aspects plus improving the speed and accessibility for devices. Further updates on progress with this will follow.



Book Week 4th—8th March

This term both the Nursery and Pre-Prep Schools will be following the theme of *Traditional Tales*.

Each class across the schools has chosen a different traditional tale to work on.

Your class teacher will soon tell you which tale has been selected for your class.

A copy of this tale will be sent home to you so that you can enjoy it together at home.

During Book Week itself, commencing 4th March, there will be a range of exciting activities, linked to our Traditional Tales theme, taking place including:

Drama & Role Play

Art- making story props, illustrations

Writing alternative versions of the class tale

Buddy reading across the schools

P4C exploring issues for example, 'Goldilocks, should she be arrested for burglary?'

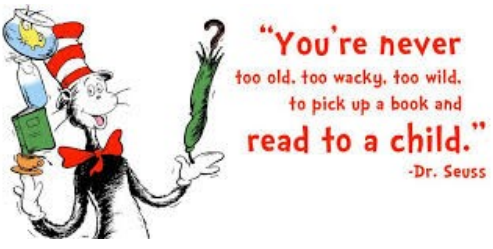
Story Teller Visits

Author Visits

Dress Up Day— Thursday 7th March

Daunt Books Sale

Sponsored Fundraiser for Farms for City Children



We are warmly encouraging parents from all classes to come in to school across this term to read or re-tell traditional tales from around the world.

With 27+ languages spoken amongst the school community there is a real opportunity for the children to learn about other cultures through these stories.

If you would like to come in to school to read a story to your class please let your class teacher know.

It would be wonderful if these sessions started before Book Week and continued afterwards.

If you would rather send a copy of a traditional tale in for the teacher to read to the class then **please do**.

Dates for your diaries....

The best way to keep up with school events and plan ahead is to use the 'Events' section on the NBH app. From here you can import dates straight into your own calendar

You can also download the calendar as a PDF in the 'Information' section.

Each week the 'Week Ahead' is uploaded to your child's class area too.

18th January– FoNBH meeting 8.45-10.00 (all parents welcome)

23rd January– Lions class assembly for parents in the gym 8.30am

30th January– Koalas class assembly for parents in the gym 8.30am

5th February– Chinese new year

6th February– Giraffes class assembly for parents in the gym 8.30am

13th February –FoNBH second hand uniform sale in the Gym

14th February– Reception Taster morning at the Pre-Prep.

14th February– Valentines day

15th February– Penguins class assembly for parents in the gym from 8.30am

18th February: half Term (NBH Holiday Club running)

4th March– Book week begins

7th March– Dress up as a book character

11th of March– Science week begins

19th of March– Zebras class assembly for parents in the gym 8.30am

25th of March– Parent & Child mornings all week between 8.30-8.50 am

4th of April– non uniform day

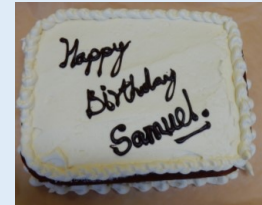
4th of April– Last day of term. School finishes at 11.45 am

Celebration Cakes

We like to celebrate special events and Birthdays in school.

If you would like to provide a cake for your child to share with their friends please ensure that it is **shop-bought and clearly shows that it is Nut-Free**.

Our wonderful catering team are able to create a range of delicious celebration cakes to order which are nut and seed free (gluten free options also available).



To place an order for a bespoke cake please speak to the team in the office who will provide you with an order form

Who to contact if you need help or advice

If you have any questions or queries please always speak to your class teacher in the first instance. They will be keen to help and support.

Miss Jackson is the Deputy Head Academic and can offer further advice and support with regards to teaching and learning.
Amy.jackson@northbridgehouse.com

If your concern is of a **pastoral or safeguarding** nature then please contact Miss Kapoor, Deputy Head Pastoral and Designated Safeguarding Lead.
Nishi.kapoor@northbridgehouse.com

School Snacks

We are a Nut and Seed Free School.

There are children in the school who have severe and life-threatening allergies to nuts and seeds.

Please do not send any products into school that may contain nuts or seeds.

The school provides the following snacks daily: Fresh Fruit / Raw vegetables, Rice Cakes, Milk (optional, chargeable).

Parents may supplement this with the following: Fresh Fruit, Raw Vegetables, Cheese, Yoghurt



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